

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****United States Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/993,442 12/18/97 JENNINGS

E 939A-040310

EXAMINER

TM02/1022

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2121

DATE MAILED:

10/22/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

# Office Action Summary

Application No. 08/993,442  
Examiner Ngo

2121

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

## Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08-20-2001
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3 and 10-20 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3 and 10-20 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
  - ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Office Action Summary

## DETAIL OF ACTION

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, including claims 1, 3 and 10-20, in Paper No. 22 is acknowledged.

2. Claims 12,13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claim 12, it is unclear as to what it means by the recitation that "separate instruction and data streams are maintained for said array processor". Claim 13 also has a similar problem.

As per claim 16, the phrase "said external environment" lack a proper antecedent basis.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1,3 and 10-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deering et al. (5,745,125).

Deering et al. discloses in figures 2-13 an integrated circuit (112, figures 3 and 4) operating with a memory (106). The integrated circuit have an interfacing circuit and embedded processor (142, figures 5), and an array processor (152). The array processor have a plurality of floating circuits, each including a first MAC unit (514,516) with a first local memory (512, see figure 11), a second MAC (614,616) with a second local memory (612, see figures 13), and a share operand (SRAM 153) as claimed. It is noted that Deering et al. does not specifically discloses the integrated circuit for image frame rendering. However, since Deering et al. disclose the circuit for graphic accelerator, it would have been an obvious field of use to apply the teaching of Deering et al in image frame rendering as claimed. Further, the number of wires in the interface circuit (figure 5) would obviously exceed 256 wires, and the use of simplified IEEE floating point notation in the computation would have been an obvious matter of design choices in choosing the format of data.

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chuong D. Ngo whose telephone number is (703) 305-9764. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 746-3238	(After Final Communication)
(703) 746-7239	(Official Communication)

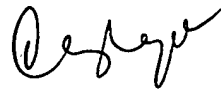
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(703) 746-7240 (For Status inquiries, draft communication)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

10-16-01.

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Chuong D. Ngo  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2121